

Frequently Asked Questions about the NCSD Fully Remote Option

1. Who should choose this option?

Anyone with students in grades K-12 who does not feel comfortable entering the physical school buildings. Students in this separate program will not be required to physically attend school.

2. I've heard about "hybrid" and "remote" plans for the entire school district. How is this different?

The hybrid and remote plans are in response to COVID-19 spread in the community. At this point, the Norwalk City School District plans to return to the physical buildings five days a week, but could switch to a hybrid plan with two days of instruction in the school building and three days of remote instruction. It is possible that the entire district may go to fully remote instruction based on the advice of the health department and the spread of the virus in our community.

3. What happens to my student if the entire school district goes to remote learning?

If your student is enrolled in the remote plan from the beginning, things will not change for him/her. Students in grades K-6 will continue learning with their remote teacher, and students in grades 7-12 will continue their Compass lessons independently.

4. What supplies do I need?

You must provide a computer and internet for your student. Basic school supplies such as pencils, paper, and a calculator will also be needed.

5. Who will teach my child and offer help when needed?

Students in grades K-6 will be assigned to a Norwalk teacher who will instruct and assess the students, offering help just like in a regular classroom. Students in grades 7-12 will take self-paced online courses but will also be offered help from the Compass instructors via Zoom as needed.

6. Who will grade my student's work?

Students in grades K-6 will be graded by their assigned Norwalk teacher. Students in grades 7-12 will be graded/assessed by Compass teachers hired through North Point ESC, and Norwalk teachers may also be assigned based on the enrollment numbers.

7. Can my student participate in extra-curriculars?

Yes. Students are considered full-time Norwalk students and may participate in activities.

8. What will a typical day be like for my student?

Students in grade K-6 will participate in "synchronous" learning which means they will log on to their computers during regular school hours and interact with their teachers and peers via Zoom. Students in grades 7-12 will participate in "asynchronous" learning, logging in at the time of their choice and self-pacing their progress through the assigned course modules.

9. Why did the NCSD choose the Compass program for grades 7-12?

The Norwalk City School District has been using the Compass program for many years. The courses are approved for instruction in Ohio and follow the state model curriculum. Because of the variety of courses offered at the middle and high school and the difficulty of scheduling students, it was necessary to choose a program that allows student choice and flexibility.

10. Who can we call for assistance or more information?

For information about the Compass program, you can reach out to your student's guidance counselors, building principal, or Rebecca Drennen at NPESC, rdrennen@npesc.org
For information about the K-6 programs, you can reach out to your building principal or email Amie Swope swopea@norwalktruckers.net

11. What kind of social interaction/peer support can we expect?

Students in grades K-6 will interact with their peers in the class and their teacher throughout the school day via Zoom. Students in grades 7-12 will work independently.

12. Is there a charge for this program?

There is no cost to parents for this program.

13. What if we change our mind and want out of the program?

While we encourage students to stick with the Remote Instruction Option for a full nine-weeks period, we also want what is best for students and will work with parents on a case-by-case basis. Students in the Compass program, however, will not receive credit for their courses if they do not finish the course, and such a move may put students behind in graduation credits.

Please check back for updates as questions arise.